

# MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

VOL. XI—NO. 32

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1949

WHOLE NO. 548

## T-H Kills Unfair List

Washington.—Organized labor is finding out almost daily just how bad the Taft-Hartley law really is. The latest demonstration was provided by a ruling of the National Labor Relations Board, under the law's provision which bans secondary boycotts, to the effect that "unfair lists" maintained by AFL building trades councils in nearly every city are illegal.

A majority of the board held that the vicious anti-labor law could be construed to put a stop to the preparation and use of the "unfair lists" which have become a tradition with AFL building trades unions and central labor bodies.

Disagreeing sharply with the view of the majority was NLRB member John M. Houston, who charged that the board's ruling "seems to me a dangerous and unnecessary curtailment of rights."

In a dissent filed in the case, Mr. Houston declared:

"If an unfair list cannot claim protection under Section 8 (c), neither can any other form or means of propaganda which a union may wish to use to publicize its views as to its relations with management and unions are enjoined to silence to a degree which seriously impairs their ability to engage in any concerted activity at all."

The board's decision ordered the Grand Rapids, Mich., Building and Construction Trades Council and the Bricklayers' Union to stop inducing employees of the Grand Rapids Tile and Mosaic Company not to work on material of the Osterneck Construction Company by maintaining the Osterneck Company on an unfair list.

In an earlier case the board voted 3 to 2 that an unfair list maintained by a single union, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, violated the Taft-Hartley law's secondary boycott ban. The recent ruling extended that decision to include unfair lists maintained by central councils.

The interpretation of the law, as handed down by the board, threw out the ruling of NLRB Trial Examiner William F. Scharnikow that the unfair list did not violate the Taft-Hartley law because it was originated before any specific law forbade such a list. The board's majority said they agreed that there could have been no violation by use of the list before passage of the restrictive labor legislation.

## Blacksmiths Join Label Trades

I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer, Union Label Trades Department, announced this week that the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers has recently become affiliated with that Department of the American Federation of Labor.

"There are now 55 national and international AFL unions affiliated with the Department, which publicizes 74 union labels, shop cards and service buttons of these various affiliates."

"The use of official insignia to designate the products and services of respective unions of the American Federation of Labor is growing and becoming more popular every day," said Mr. Ornburn, "and I believe it is due to the fact that there is an increasing demand not only by American consumers for Union Label goods and Union services, but also because manufacturers who have collective bargaining agreements with AFL unions are coming to realize the full benefit of displaying the Union Label on their products. Other industries designate their services by the Shop Card or Union Button. I believe that those manufacturers and other employers who recognize the Union Label as a valuable asset to business are worthy of the full patronage of all members of labor unions, women's auxiliaries and their friends throughout America."

## Southern Editors Plan Permanent Organization

Miami.—Editors of bona fide Southern labor papers formed a temporary organization with Stanton Dunn, editor of the Mobile Labor Journal, named as chairman, and L. B. Stanford, editor of the Southern Teamster, Atlanta, secretary. The meeting was attended by editors of labor papers east of the Mississippi River.

A permanent Southern labor press organization is slated to be set up at a meeting in Atlanta on March 26 and 27. The bona fide labor press of the entire Southern territory has been invited to the Atlanta gathering.

## S. F. Food Prices Remain High

After a break in January, when the level of food prices in San Francisco moved up from December levels, the mid-February consumers' price index of food swung downward again. Max D. Kosoris, regional director, Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor, reports that the February food index of 219.3 is down 1.7 per cent from the January index of 223.2, and is back to about the same level it occupied in April of last year. The new February level, however, is still 1.8 per cent above that of February a year ago.

The downward trend from the preceding January levels is the composite result of divergent price moves for the various items which comprise the index. Primarily responsible for the decrease was a reduction of 4.7 per cent in the price of meats, with prices for beef and veal down by as much as 6.5 per cent. Pork was off by 4.2 per cent, and chicken prices dropped drastically, by 12 per cent.

Eggs also had a marked decrease from mid-February price levels, 18 per cent, selling for an average price of about 65 cents. The decrease for fats and oils prices was 5.9 per cent, and for cereals and bakery products, 0.8 per cent.

Moving up were prices of fruits and vegetables for an average increase of 5.8 per cent. The fresh varieties were up by as much as 7.5 per cent. Canned foods prices, on the other hand, showed a reduction, 3.7 per cent from the January levels.

The price level of dairy products was up 0.3 per cent, but beverage prices remained unchanged.

The reduction of 1.7 per cent in the level of food prices in San Francisco compares with a reduction of 2.5 per cent for the U. S. as a whole. The national index of 199.7 is below that of 219.2 for San Francisco, indicating that the rise in food prices in the bay city since the base period of 1935-39 has been sharper than for the country generally.

## 9,000 Hit by Express Lockout

New York.—A lockout of 9,000 workers employed by the Railway Express Agency was in full force here March 14, with its effects expected to spread throughout the nation.

Some 5,700 package loaders, sorters and office workers affiliated with the Bro. of Railway Clerks-AFL officially lost their jobs when "job abolition" notices issued March 10 became effective. Also affected by the agency's lockout were 3,300 members of the Intl. Bro. of Teamsters-AFL, who are not directly involved in the dispute.

Union spokesmen denounced the agency's lockout and freight embargo actions as designed "to further delay and hinder final settlement of the wage and scale dispute."

Railway Express has been accused of stalling since April 1948 on union demands for a 40-hour week with Saturday and Sunday off consecutively. The union also is seeking a 25c hourly wage boost but the major issue is reduction of the workweek from the present 44-hour schedule. The long overdue wage increase would bring the workers up to the third round.

The agency has offered a 7c hourly wage boost and a "staggered" workweek of 40 hours. Vice Chairman J. P. Dolan of the local BRC express division said this proposal "would push the union back about 10 years," since it would mean the elimination of present time-and-a-half pay for Sundays.

## Electrical Workers Win Carolina Power Election

Asheville, N. C.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 907 won a hotly contested NLRB election among the employees of the Carolina power and Light Co., Western Division, with headquarters in this city.

Local 907 has held the bargaining rights since 1938, renewing its contract periodically from that time. After passage of the Taft-Hartley Law the company challenged the local's right to represent its employees as well as the right of the local to represent the working foremen in its service groups to the power lines. The company petitioned the NLRB for an election and the IBEW won the test overwhelmingly.

Nitrate fertilizers are needed for plant growth and must be supplied for good crops because all normal nitrates are soluble in water and those in the soil quickly leach away.

## Fishing Hit By Proposed Legislation

Monterey Fish Cannery Workers Union officials have been traveling to Sacramento during the current legislative session to protest vigorously against bills designed to set the sardine fishing and canning season from August 15 to February 15 and to eliminate entirely any "summer pack."

The bill has been approved by committee and referred to the Assembly for action despite protest of northern California fishing and fish canning interests. Assemblyman Vincent Thomas of San Pedro, where there is no summer activity in sardines, authored the measure.

Meanwhile, the California Division of Fish and Game has opened an intensive two-year survey which is hoped to determine facts regarding the decline of food sardines in California waters. A comprehensive research is planned, at a cost of about a million dollars.

## In Union Circles

Carl Lara, business representative for Painters Union 1104 and for Salinas Electrical Workers Union 243, was called to San Francisco last Friday on business for the Electrical Workers.

New telephone number of Carpenters Union 925 of Salinas is Salinas 9293. The number was changed to give better service to members.

Engineers Union 3 has closed its office in Monterey County and Business Agent M. G. Murphy has been returned to San Jose where he will handle affairs of the union for that area and this. He has a new assistant, Joe Riley.

## They Color Butter But Not Oleo!

California housewives still will be buying their oleomargarine uncolored, according to the chairman of the Livestock and Dairies Committee, Assemblyman James Silliman (R., Salinas)—that is, if he has his way. He said he was willing to predict no colored margarine bill will get by his group.

Who is this group? That is easy to figure out. It is a country-dominated Assembly committee and a "cow country" Senate committee.

California consumers want oleomargarine colored and ready to use when it comes from the store. Dairy interests find it advantageous to color butter to make it more appealing to the consumer, but of all things, the dairy interests-dominated committee refuse to even give the legislative body as a whole a chance to vote on it.

This is a concrete example showing why the reapportionment bill which came up for vote at the last election should have been passed by the consuming public (union co-operation could have passed it), then the hundreds of families who want colored margarine could have their say. They know their representatives would not let them down. Now a few of the dairy farmers, representing a powerful dairy lobby, say in so many words "It shall not pass."

Write to your State Senator and Assemblyman today!

## More Holidays Are Wanted

Cleveland.—FDR is still the ranking favorite among working people.

Cleveland employers report that the paid holiday most frequently requested by unions in their new contracts is the January 30 birthday anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Other sought-after holidays include Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, election day, and Good Friday.

## Salinas Culinary Signs Two Houses

Two more restaurants in Salinas have been signed to contracts by Culinary Alliance 467, it was announced this week. They are the Penguin Cafe and Emmett's Cafe.

Why the enormous growth of British Cooperatives? Well, cooperative action is as old as civilization because civilization depends on voluntary cooperation of individuals in a community to raise the level of the family, group, tribe or settlement above the daily competitive scramble for subsistence.

## Vote Tuesday For Hospital Bond Program

Residents in the Salinas area are urged to vote next Tuesday in the special election and to vote YES on the \$2,000,000 bond program to start immediate construction of the new Salinas Memorial Hospital.

Endorsed by Organized Labor, the bond program calls for raising the funds at once WITHOUT any increase in taxes. The tax for the new hospital already is being collected but sufficient funds for the building of the hospital will not be raised by tax alone for 15 years—and need for the hospital is pressing.

Union officials point out that immediate construction of the hospital is necessary and sensible and urge a strong YES vote.

## ANTHONY ALVES, FCWU OFFICIAL, IN COUNCIL RACE

Anthony Alves, vice president of the Monterey Fish Cannery Workers Union, has filed papers in his campaign for election as city councilman in Monterey, it was announced last week. Election is May 9.

Alves is also a trustee for the union and has been an official for the past five years.

As a delegate to the Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, Alves has served organized labor in numerous ways, being at one time vice president of that organization.

He is a steam engineer at San Carlos Canning Co., is married and father of six children, and has resided in Monterey for many years.

## New, Modern Equipment For Temos

Modernization of office work and streamlining of the duties of office workers is the aim of General Teamsters Union 890 through the purchase of new and modern office equipment, President Al Harris and Secretary Pete Andrade report.

An electric typewriter is being purchased, along with an electric mimeograph outfit, they report. Other modern equipment has been procured from time to time. For the benefit of the trio of office girls, the union has purchased three specially fitted "posture chairs" to protect them from fatigue while working.

Local 890 also has purchased an excellent projector with screen and full sound equipment and will show motion pictures at meetings henceforth, Harris said.

## Culinary, Bar Unions Press Hollister Move

Organizational efforts in the Hollister area are being pressed by Culinary Alliance 467 and Bartenders Union 545, both of Salinas, according to Secretary A. J. Clark, of Local 545.

Clark and Bertha Boles, secretary of Local 467, have made frequent trips into the Hollister area for organizational purposes and have pledged full co-operation with San Jose union officials in their campaign to unionize all of San Benito County.

## Pebble Beach Lodge Addition Work Pushed

Three contracting firms from San Francisco are making good progress on additions to the Pebble Beach Lodge on the 17-mile drive along the Monterey Peninsula, union officials report.

Work on various portions of the huge projects is being done by the contracting firms of Barrett & Hill, Bardell Co., and Jacks & Irvine, it was said.

## Jolon Mission Being Rebuilt

Rebuilding of the old mission at Jolon, near the wartime Camp Hunter Liggett, has been started by the Marmo Construction Co. of Santa Maria, according to J. B. McGinley, business agent of Laborers Union 272 of Salinas, this union having sent men to the project. The mission is being restored, McGinley said.



FOR SAFETY'S SAKE.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin (left) welcomes President Truman to the Conference of Industrial Safety in the Labor Department in Washington. Mr. Truman urged delegates to push a campaign to cut industrial accidents by 50 per cent.

## Historic Victory Won by Rail Men; Million Get 5-Day Week

Chicago.—The "Iron Horse" was back on the track this week after a couple of derailments in relations between railroad managements and labor.

One of the biggest railroad strikes in months—on the Wabash—was over and four Railroad Brotherhoods chuffed

length of service. The 350,000 train, engine and yard service employees which they represent now get only a week of vacation with pay each year.

Their efforts to clean up the grievances in many months of direct negotiations and mediation had failed, but an eight-day strike broke the management's obduracy. The 3,700 members of the four Brotherhoods returned only after the carrier settled the great bulk of nearly 200 grievances.

The biggest strike threat of all, involving a million "non-operating" workers on the railroads, was averted when 16 unions representing the million employees reached an agreement with the management on a wage increase and on terms for applying a 40-hour week at 48 hours' pay.

The settlement was in line with recommendations previously made, and later re-interpreted, by a Presidential emergency board. It provided for a seven cents an hour increase, retroactive to October 1, which will mean average back pay of \$90 for each worker.

The 40-hour week is to become effective next September 1 and the unions, after a prolonged battle and a final all-night session, got the shorter week applied on the basis they demanded.

Railroads, while agreeing in principle to the 40-hour week, attempted throughout the negotiations to chisel in applying it to various classes of employees and also wanted to stagger work weeks as they pleased.

Under the settlement, however, the unions won two consecutive days off for over 95 per cent of the million employees—and for most of them this will be Saturday and Sunday. Also, the unions said they defeated a carrier attempt to deprive monthly-rated employees of the full benefits of the shorter week.

That settlement, according to George E. Leighty, chairman of the joint negotiating committee of the 16 rail unions, "brought to a successful conclusion the most momentous wage and hour movement in railroad history and for that matter in the history of American industry."

Meantime, two more unions, the Railroad Yardmasters and Train Dispatchers, pushed demands for a 40-hour week at 48 hours' pay.

Also, five "operating" Brotherhoods—the Locomotive Engineers, Firemen and Engineers, Trainmen, Conductors, and Switchmen—started negotiations with the railroads for paid vacations of 15 to 30 days a year, depending on

## Safety, Boss's Job

Washington.—Safety of workers on the job is the "moral and legal responsibility" of management, it was agreed by the 1500 labor, management and government representatives at the President's Safety Conference here last week. President Truman and Labor Secretary Tobin pledged all possible federal support to the drive to cut down industrial accidents, which last year hit just under the 2,000,000 mark.

## Building Trades Wages Small Factor in High Home Costs

Washington.—The price of land, building materials costs, and high financing charges are the prime factors in the high cost of homebuilding, the AFL's United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners charged in an article appearing in the Carpenter, union's official magazine.

The article effectively debunks the ridiculous argument that wages of building tradesmen alone have boosted the prices of new homes to their dizzy heights, and points out that even a 25 per cent cut in those wages would make little difference in the selling price of a house.

To back up this statement the union presents a survey of 3 homes constructed in the San Francisco area to sell for \$12,000 each. The labor cost on each was \$1,829.15, or 16 per cent of the selling price.

The article said: "We are not charging that there is any profiteering or price gouging anywhere in particular along the line in house building. But we are saying that labor costs have added least to the inflation in the home market. After all, even old houses today are selling for twice and three times what they cost to build."

"Cheap houses can and must come. But they will never come so long as the \$300 pre-war lot is selling for \$1,000, or while lumber is 300 per cent above pre-war prices, or while fixtures alone cost more than the whole pre-war bathroom did."

"Construction wages have increased. But they have not increased nearly as fast as prices have. In terms of real wages, building tradesmen have hardly held their own. Furthermore, construction wages have increased more slowly than wages in practically any other industry."

"The challenge can be met, but it can never be met by criticism, recriminations and blasts against building trades workers for they, of all groups connected with construction, have profited least, and contributed least to inflation."

In the pre-war era, the union estimates, 24 to 30 percent of the cost of an average dwelling went for direct labor, and it points out that in view of the "skyrocketing" which building materials prices did during the last few years as compared to wages, it is only proper to assume that the percentage of direct labor costs has decreased."

"However," the union adds, "even assuming the ratio remained the same, there are some other vital facts which must be taken into consideration. Few people are in the position to buy a home for cash. Four out of five must finance, and financing means financing charges. "Under the most liberal FHA program in effect before the war, finance and interest charges on a \$5,000 dwelling amounted to more than \$3,100 before the home was paid for. At a ratio of 30 percent for direct labor costs, the on site labor charges on the \$5,000 home amounted to only \$1,500. In other words, finance charges cost twice as much as labor costs."

"Other factors entered into the price a buyer had to pay for a home before it finally became his on an FHA plan. Taxes, insurance and upkeep over the life of the FHA plan ran around \$2,500. In fact, the AFL statistical department has figured out that the buyer of the \$5,000 home under the above plan paid out better than \$14,000 before he finally got the deed. Of the final price, only something like 10 percent went to the workers who put the house up with their tools and skills."

"In view of the fact that wages have increased less than almost any other thing that goes into a home, it is only reasonable to assume that the picture has changed little since 1941. Labor still gets only a small percentage of the ultimate price a home buyer pays under a mortgage plan. How, then, can any appreciable reduction in home prices be instituted by reducing building trades wages? The answer is that they cannot be."

The union points out that the average brokerage fee of a real estate agent is 5 percent, and that if a house is sold twice the real estate brokers receive roughly as big a share as the building tradesman who put it up.

"Is any one suggesting," the union asks, "that the answer to low cost housing is lower real estate brokerage fees? No. Yet it would be just as logical to suggest that the way to bring down prices as by cutting building trades wages."

## Summer School Planned By AFL Auto Workers

Milwaukee.—The United Automobile Workers (AFL) have announced that their summer school will open June 19 and continue for two weeks.

Courses offered will include union leadership, collective bargaining, time study and advanced job evaluation. This latest course will be a follow-up to the basic job evaluation classes held during the 1947 and 1948 institutes. The wide appeal of the school and the ever-increasing interest in labor education are expected to result in a record enrollment this summer.

The UAW-AFL has engaged the top labor instructors of the country to conduct the classes and give the students every opportunity for complete and accurate participation in the latest developments in the field of labor.

## J. E. McDONALD, PIONEER LABOR EDITOR, PASSES

Joseph Edmund ("Mac") McDonald, managing editor of California labor papers in the late 1930's and prominent figure in labor circles throughout the nation, passed away at noon Monday at Community Service Hospital in San Jose following a prolonged illness.

Bro. McDonald was widely known as a labor paper editor and for his work which resulted in the permanent tobacco workers union in Florida. He returned to railroading during the last war until he suffered a severe heart attack and was forced to retire. He was 61 years of age.

After leaving the labor press field and before retirement four years ago as train dispatcher for the Santa Fe in Fresno, Brother McDonald organized the American Train Dispatchers Association and that line, the last major system to give train dispatchers representation and security.

Born in Pocahontas, Virginia, Bro. McDonald later moved to Montana and began his career as a coal miner at the age of 14. Two years later he was supporting his entire family as a miner and was a "griever" for the United Mine Workers Union.

Known affectionately as "Mac," he worked his way to leadership in union after union, shifting to railroading at the age of 18 when he became ticket agent in the mid-west. At the same time he homesteaded in Montana, starting his life-long interest in farming.

From railroad clerk to telephone lineman, to railroad telegrapher, and finally to dispatcher, "Mac" gave his all to the labor movement, serving at one time as general chairman for the ATDA on the Seaboard Air Line in Florida.

While on leave of absence from Seaboard in 1921, Bro. McDonald traveled to Russia on one of the many technical missions organized by the United States at that time, setting up the management of an entire section of economy in Kammerov, Siberia, including coal mining, agriculture and logging. Before returning to his railroad job in Florida, he established the ATDA system on the Moscow Railroad.

Coming to California in the fall of 1936, Bro. McDonald joined the staff of the Breddsten & Tosh central labor council papers.

In this capacity he helped establish the central council publications in Watsonville, Monterey, Salinas, Santa Cruz and San Mateo. When Joseph Breddsten was absent from the country, Bro. McDonald handled the editorial, as well as reporting work for these growing papers.

In 1937, McDonald was first secretary and a charter member of the San Jose Newspaper Guild.

He was forced to retire in 1941 because of ill health he brought on by overwork, and at that time started ranching in Aptos, Santa Cruz County. During World War II the need for trained dispatchers was so critical that Bro. McDonald decided he should offer his services to the transportation system again, and carried on as dispatcher for the Santa Fe until repeated heart attacks forced his retirement.

Since then he has been running an apple and almond ranch in Aptos. A member of the Valencia Farm Center, he has retained his membership in both the Order of Railroad Telegraphers and the American Train Dispatchers Association. He leaves his wife, Grace McDonald, editor of the California Farm Reporter; two sons, both teachers, Bruce, in the Burlingame Elementary Schools, and Wallace, who teachers at Tamalpais High, and a daughter, Jan McDonald Howard, student at UCLA.

## AFL's Education Bill Introduced in House

Washington.—An aid-to-education bill drafted by the American Federation of Labor, calling for federal grants rising from \$400,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 a year, was introduced in the House by Representative John Lesinski (D., Mich.), chairman of the Labor Committee.

Grants to the states for educational purposes would be limited to public schools, but private schools would be authorized to benefit from other funds appropriated for health and welfare services.

The bill would authorize appropriations of \$400,000,000 in each of the next four fiscal years, beginning July 1; \$600,000,000 in the fiscal year 1955, and \$1,000,000,000 annually thereafter.



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A CALIFORNIA LABOR PRESS PUBLICATION

Office at Labor Temple, 117 Pejaro Street, Salinas, California  
Entered as Second Class Matter February 20, at the Postoffice at Salinas, California, Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY

Official Organ of the Central Labor Union of Monterey County, Salinas, Calif.  
Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, Monterey, California.  
Monterey County Building Trades Council, Monterey, Calif.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year \$2.50  
Six Months 1.50  
Single Copies .05

Special rates to members of organized labor subscribing in a body through their Unions.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

Address all Communications to the LABOR NEWS,  
Post Office Box 1440, Salinas, California.

All copy must be in not later than Tuesday noon, preceding date of publication.  
The editorial policy of this paper is not reflected in any way by the advertisements or signed communications printed herein.

## HIGH TIME LABOR WOKE UP

From all parts of the United States come reports that labor is awakening to the fact that unless it learns to use its political power more intelligently in the future than has been done in the past, our entire organized labor movement is in grave danger of being outlawed and wiped out of existence.

When the men and women of labor everywhere in our land recognize that everything that has been won for labor through trade union activities is now in danger of being outlawed by legislation they are merely facing the realities of the present day.

In our federal government and in many states laws, intended to outlaw and destroy unions, have already been placed on the statute books. Unless this tendency to legislate unions out of existence is stopped and the tide turned in the opposite direction very dark days lie ahead for those who must earn their living by toil.

It is a tragedy that labor has slept so long. Now that workers have started to awaken politically, let it be a thorough awakening. Let not only a few live wires become active in our unions but let the women and all who vote become active units in this general awakening of labor, so that labor hereafter will go to the polls actually knowing what they are voting for and whom they are electing.

## BADLY MUDDLED THINKING

What purports to be a discussion of the merits of the Taft-Hartley law and which is being inflicted on the public by press and radio in heavy doses is in reality nothing more nor less than a smokescreen intended to obscure what actually is involved.

What really enters is that this obnoxious law reeks with fascism from start to finish. It is very correctly called a slave law for the reason that under it working people can be ordered to go to work against their own volition. Under it injunctions can be invoked to enjoin working people, during labor disputes, from exercising their constitutional rights and labor unions can be fined out of existence as a result of court edicts. There is not a single provision of the Taft-Hartley law that is worth saving. Our country and our labor unions lived and prospered long before we ever had such a law. The sooner it is repealed the better it will be for everybody, since nothing but endless friction and turmoil can result from permitting it to remain in force. The only purpose of all these artfully drafted questions is to muddle people's thinking. This law restores slavery and makes it possible for anti-union judges to become the arbiters of our liberties.

It is not a question of whether this, that or the other statement supposed to be contained in this thoroughly bad law, by itself might look acceptable. The question at issue is the law itself, as a whole, which is unqualifiedly bad, and for that reason should be repealed.

## PLENTY TALK, LITTLE RESULTS

Our 81st Congress has made a miserably poor start during its first three months of existence. There has been plenty of talk but so inexcusably little action that the members of both houses ought to hang their heads in shame.

Instead of enacting legislation, which the majority of our people have every right to expect, in view of the fact that the political party having majority control in both houses made definite pledges in regard to what would be done, virtually nothing has been done except to talk.

Everybody can concede that a certain amount of speech-making goes with lawmaking, but when such use of free discussion degenerates into mere filibustering and obstructionist tactics that apparently have no other purpose than to prevent enactment of badly needed laws then it is about time that what little brains we have in Congress began to devise ways and means to put an end to such practices.

If the 81st Congress cannot overcome its present obstructionist tendencies the people of this nation better start pretty soon to get ready to administer the greatest housecleaning of our history, when the next Congressional election rolls around.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

"Yes, but what can I do to help labor win the political battles now raging everywhere in the United States," many men and women are beginning to ask. Now, here are some of the things you can do. You can join a labor league club, when one is formed in your neighborhood. You can see to it that every member of your family is registered in the precinct you are now living. If you move you must re-register to be entitled to vote. All voters can register at the court house of the county in which they live. After your own family has all registered get your friends and neighbors to do likewise. It is registered voters who win elections.

## Your Impatience is Showing, Uncle!



## Taxes Rob Workers' Buying Power; Big Profits Go Free

Taxes are a heavy drain on the purchasing power of workers and their families. Before the war, the government collected about \$1 billion in individual income taxes. During the 1949 fiscal year, individual income taxes will run over \$19 billion.

It was the workers and other low income groups who bore the brunt of this increased tax burden. Before the war, the groups receiving less than \$5,000 a year paid 10 per cent of total individual income taxes. Now these groups pay over 50 per cent.

In addition to this heavy burden of individual income taxes, workers also carry a heavy load of hidden taxation. In the 1949 fiscal year, federal excise taxes will amount to about \$8 billion. These excise taxes—really sales taxes—cut the purchasing power of workers just when they are being hit by layoffs and part-time employment.

These taxes on consumption rose sharply during the war years. Excise tax collections have increased from \$1.8 billion before the war to around \$8 billion in the 1949 fiscal year. The government now collects 60 per cent more from excise taxes alone than it did from all taxes before the war. And while the excess profits tax was repealed and substantial reductions were made in the income taxes of the middle and top income brackets, excise taxes are still at their peak war-time levels. Not a single cent has been cut from excise taxes.

The government gets away with this unfair tax on consumption, which bears most heavily on low-income families, because so few people realize that they are paying these hidden taxes every day in the week.

### HIDDEN TAXES HEAVY

Every time a worker buys a pack of cigarettes, he pays an excise tax of seven cents. The tax on a fifth of rye is \$1.44. The tax on a movie ticket is 20 per cent.

If a worker's wife buys a lipstick, the tax is 20 per cent. If she buys baby oil to clean her baby's bottom, the tax is 20 per cent. (By some quirk in the law, baby oil is classified as a luxury cosmetic.)

If the worker's family takes a bus trip to another town, the tax is 20 per cent. The tax on a long distance phone call is 15 to 25 per cent.

The tax on a handbag is 20 per cent. And so on down the line, with scores of items that can be called anything but luxuries. The burden of these hidden taxes is for many low-income families a heavier load than income taxes.

One-fourth of the government's excise tax collections come from taxes on movies, cosmetics, gasoline, cigarettes and phone calls. The great bulk of these items are purchased by workers and can hardly be called luxuries. It is therefore a phony argument to contend that excise taxes are imposed only on luxuries.

### OUT HERE, ADD THERE

Another administration argument is that the government needs the revenues. But the elimination of the most onerous taxes on consumption enacted during the war would reduce revenues by but \$2.5 billion. The government could make up for this reduction, and the reduction of \$5 billion caused by raising the exemption of a family of four to \$4,000, by raising corporation taxes by \$12 billion.

This would leave the government with a net increase of \$4.5 billion in revenues and would leave the corporations with profits after taxes that were twice as high as prewar.

With purchasing power sagging,

it is essential that the government prop up buying power by eliminating the worst of the hidden taxes and by exempting a family of four with an income of \$4,000 from income taxation.

This would mean pumping \$7.5 billion into the stream of purchasing power, thereby supporting three million full-time jobs.

"Dis-inflation" is accentuated by the unfair tax system which deprives millions of workers and their families of essential purchasing power which they need to sustain their living standards.

## CONSTRUCTION

Los Alamos, Whiterock Camp, taking bids, camp bldgs, dwellings, \$700,000.

Fresno county hosp., bids in, \$443,000.

San Bernardino highway, Running Springs, \$770,093, Frederickson & Kaiser.

Oakland eastshore freeway, rail overhead at High St., low: A. Soda, \$684,930.

Las Vegas sewage plant, \$557,000, Fitzgerald Constr. Co., Long Beach.

U. S. C., arts-science bldg., bids due, \$750,000.

Marin county bond election, May 24, \$800,000, county hosp.

Humboldt county highway, Orick, Plombo Co., S.F., \$668,708.

Stockton, Franklin High School, \$320,000, bids due May 10.

Berkeley, U. C. student union bldg., \$5,000,000, planned.

Martinez high school, drawings up, \$875,000.

SF law school, Hastings college, 1950, \$1,250,000.

Denver horse track, \$2,500,000, plans up.

Soledad, medium security prison, plans up, \$9,527,000.

Stockton highways, \$1,067,164, United Concrete Pipe.

Visalia high school, \$1,425,000, Ted F. Merrill, Inglewood.

Concord high school, \$723,637, Harris & Fieldheim and H. E. Rahimian Co.

L. A. Aud. & Opera House, plans done, \$35,000,000, Wilshire Dist.

Missouri Basin Proj., Cedar Bluff dam, \$11,350,735, C. F. Lytle Co., Sioux City.

Crescent City breakwater, \$3,245,375, Macco and Morrison-Knudson.

Point Mugu quarters, \$1,586,900, Robt. E. McKee, West L. A.

Los Alamos, Zia Motor Pool, \$1,082,749, Robt. E. McKee, Santa Fe.

Central Valley project, rail, road relocation, Shasta dam, \$1,744,619, R. A. Heintz, Portland.

American motor vehicles require about 20,000 tons of steel every year for license plates.

## Boss's Duty To Make the Job Safe

Washington.—Top management of an industrial company should accept full responsibility for rendering workplaces and work methods safe, the President's Conference on Industrial Safety was told in a report to its final session March 25. The 3-day conference was attended by some 1,500 delegates.

It adopted a call to action drawn up by a coordinating committee of employer, labor, state government and other delegates which stressed that industrial safety must be a continuing campaign of concern to every responsible agency and group. Main part of the meeting was devoted to hearing reports of technical committees and floor discussion of the reports.

### "CORRECT HAZARDS"

Among the topics covered by the reports, prepared in advance of the conference, were: analysis of accident records; engineering and safety; laws and regulations; education and labor-management cooperation for safety. The body decided that the President's conference should be continued, that future national meetings should be held, and that followup conferences should be held in the states to further the program adopted in Washington.

The overall tone of the final report showed a healthy regard for the importance of making work places safe, rather than emphasizing appeals to the worker to watch his step around dangerous machinery. "The first step should be correction of physical hazards followed by periodic inspection of premises and equipment," it said.

### A SAFETY PLEDGE

The report made it plain that management should have a safety policy, that it should make safety instruction of new workers part of the job of foremen, that it should keep accurate and detailed accident records. Unions, the report said, "should maintain safety organizations and, where practicable, safety directors at the international level, and trained representatives at regional, district and local levels. Duty of these officials, it said, would be to conduct safety courses, stimulate safety interest and cooperate with management programs.

The report said the job of the federal government in industrial safety should be advisory, but that "each state should enact a basic safety law authorizing its state labor department to render work places safe and empowering such department to promulgate codes to serve as a foundation for effective safety performance."

## Concession to Labor Won In Idaho Legislature

Boise, Idaho.—The successful political campaign waged in 1948 by the Idaho State Federation of Labor to clean out anti-labor members of the State Legislature has paid off.

The Federation reports that "all in all, labor experienced the best legislative session in the history of our state."

The Idaho Legislature of 1949 killed six anti-labor bills, one of which was a duplicate of the Taft-Hartley law, at the request of organized labor.

In addition, labor succeeded in setting up a State Labor Commission, in improving the silicosis-control laws, and in increasing workmen's compensation benefits by 30 per cent.

## GRIN or GROAN

The smart gal doesn't hitch her wagon to a star. She hitchies it, and herself, to a guy who works like a horse.

Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow the prices go up.

Income tax is the fine you pay for reckless thriving.

He found his wife in tears. "You know that lovely cake I made from mother's recipe," she cried. "Well, I put it out to cool and the cat ate half of it." "Never mind, dear," he comforted. "I know someone who will give us a kitten."

Phyllis is the one who likes dogs. She told me about a friend walking her dog past a nursery and the proprietor watching their progress with suspicion.

The friend frowned at him and said, "You needn't be so suspicious. My dog won't bite your old flowers."

(On Receiving a 25-Year Service Pin from His Employer) I've worked a lot of hours here, And now I'd like to mention, Instead of this gold service pin, I'd rather have a pension.

I've made a lot of dough for you, And you know that I'm not braggin', My hands are sore, my back is broke, My tired back side's a-draggin'.

You took the sap right out of me, Since my body you did hire. And now I'd like a little dough, So that I might retire.

This company is big enough, Huge profits they receive. So let the moths out of your purse, And give a pension, PLEASE.

Tank Fleet Operator: "Why did you leave your last place of employment?" Pretty young applicant: "I was caught kissing my boss, sir." T. F. O.: "Harrumph! Can you start in the morning?"

Boss: "This is the end! You're fired!" Fitter: "Fired! I allus thought slaves was sold!"

First Fitter: "Hey, any of you fellows lost a wrench?" Second Fitter: "Yes, me."

First: "What's your name?" Second: "Mike Connor."

First: "Then it ain't yours. This wrench belong to Pat. Pending. His name's on it."

The one about the fellow who didn't come home one night and his worried wife wired five of his friends: "Jack hasn't come home. Is he spending the night with you?"

Soon after her husband got home, she received five wires. They all read:

"It's O. K. Jack is spending the night with me."

Everything has its bright side But it surely is no fun To see the shine upon the suit You've worn since forty-one.

My stenographer says a gal wears falsies to make her torso moreso.

Heard about the wife who read the Kinsey Report then shot her husband.

Tom—Was he violent when you told him you wanted to marry his daughter?

Sam—Violent, I should say so. Why, he nearly shook my hand off.

"Fancy, dear," said Mrs. Jones to her husband, "it says here that in China a man doesn't know his wife until after the wedding ceremony." "And why," asked the husband moodily, "is China especially mentioned?"

## Fluorescent Tubes Are Dangerous

Don't touch the inside of a fluorescent light fixture, or breathe the gaseous contents.

The State Department of Public Health warned this week that beryllium compounds used to coat the inside of fluorescent tubes are dangerous either to touch or breathe.

A skin scratch from glass splinters tends to ulcerate, and will not heal unless all chemical particles are removed.

Severe respiratory infection or cough can come from even slight exposure to the beryllium breathed as a vapor or dust. Prolonged or repeated inhalation causes incapacitating and frequently fatal lung disease, according to Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, department director.

"Fluorescent lights are perfectly safe in normal use, but hazardous if they are broken or disposed of carelessly," Dr. Halverson explained.

"If tubes must be broken for disposal, break them outdoors and wear gloves to protect your skin. Never burn fluorescent tubes.

## 'Truman Depression'—?; Fear Sweeps D.C.—No Price Control

Less than half a year ago price control was one of the hottest issues in the country. The election campaign was a strange one. Professional politicians admitted they didn't know exactly what the people were thinking about. But all agreed that the high cost of living was probably the most important single issue.

Now the 81st Congress has been sitting for nearly three months. And there has been no debate on price control in either House or Senate. Spokesmen from left, right and middle have been willing to let the issue slide.

To start with, no one thought there was much chance of pushing through a roll back of prices. Early in the session staunch administration supporters were talking only about standby authority to hold back prices if they rose further.

### FORGET PRICE CONTROL

Naturally prices were out of line. Most Congressmen admitted that profits had outstripped wages. But to set up a new OPA and try to push prices back to a 1947 level sounded like too much of a job. Administration leaders like Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), and Rep. Mike Montgomery (D., Okla.) indicated they would settle for a price level no higher than the present one.

As the weeks went by, talk about standby price control died down too. Something new has been thrown into the economic pot. It began to look as if prices might be sliding back by themselves.

And that touched off a new set of problems. Depression, a word which seemed once to be buried in the history of ten years ago, was talked about again.

### IN A PICKLE

Government economists found themselves in a predicament. If they kept on talking about price controls while prices eased off, they would sound stupid. Worse, they might frighten the leaders of corporations. And the business community seemed to be in a delicate condition.

On the other hand, if they forgot about price controls altogether, they could be accused of dumping campaign pledges. Worse again, talk about depressions is bad medicine politically. At the first sign of rising unemployment, Republicans tried out a new phrase, "the Truman depression."

The problem is still unsettled. Pres. Truman's Council of Economic Advisers continues to issue optimistic statements. Standby price control powers and higher corporate taxes are part of the official program, although half forgotten.

### TOPE OF FEAR

But, lower down in the ranks of the Council and the Commerce Dept. and the Budget Bureau and all the other places where economists work, a different tone has crept into conversations. Not price control but fear of depression is in the air.

Government surveys of business plans are being studied. On the basis of rough figures the fear is spreading that business spending for new plant and equipment may be as much as 20% lower at the end of 1949 than it was at the end of 1948. Lower business spending may be the sign of shrinking payrolls. Shrunk payrolls would cut still further into the buying power of American families. If the spiral starts down it is hard to stop.

You can't get a responsible official to admit it, but the main policy now seems to be to wait and see. Commissioner Ewan Clague of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was inclined to shrug off the midwinter rise in unemployment. He said there would be an upturn in April.

The turning point, if it comes, is close at hand.

If factory employment goes up this spring, prices might start to climb again. And the price control plans would be dusted off and brought out. If unemployment hangs on and swells further, the idea of price control will get a quiet burial. And we will be back where we were ten years ago, wondering what to do next to create jobs.

## You Pay for Those Big Ads

New York.—You may not realize it, but you're paying, indirectly, for big business propaganda advertisements aimed directly against you.

"The new big business ad campaign to save the Taft-Hartley law and smear as 'socialist' all social legislation," the newsweekly In Fact reported in its March 28 issue, "is being financed, indirectly, by the U. S. Treasury and the general public."

According to tax experts, In Fact, said a loophole in the tax law lets corporations call advertisements "business expense"—although they may be really pure propaganda. As "business expense," the cost is deducted from the profits taxed by the government.

Since the corporate profit tax is 38 per cent, the article said, the U. S. Treasury loses \$3,800 every time a firm spends \$10,000 for a propaganda ad.

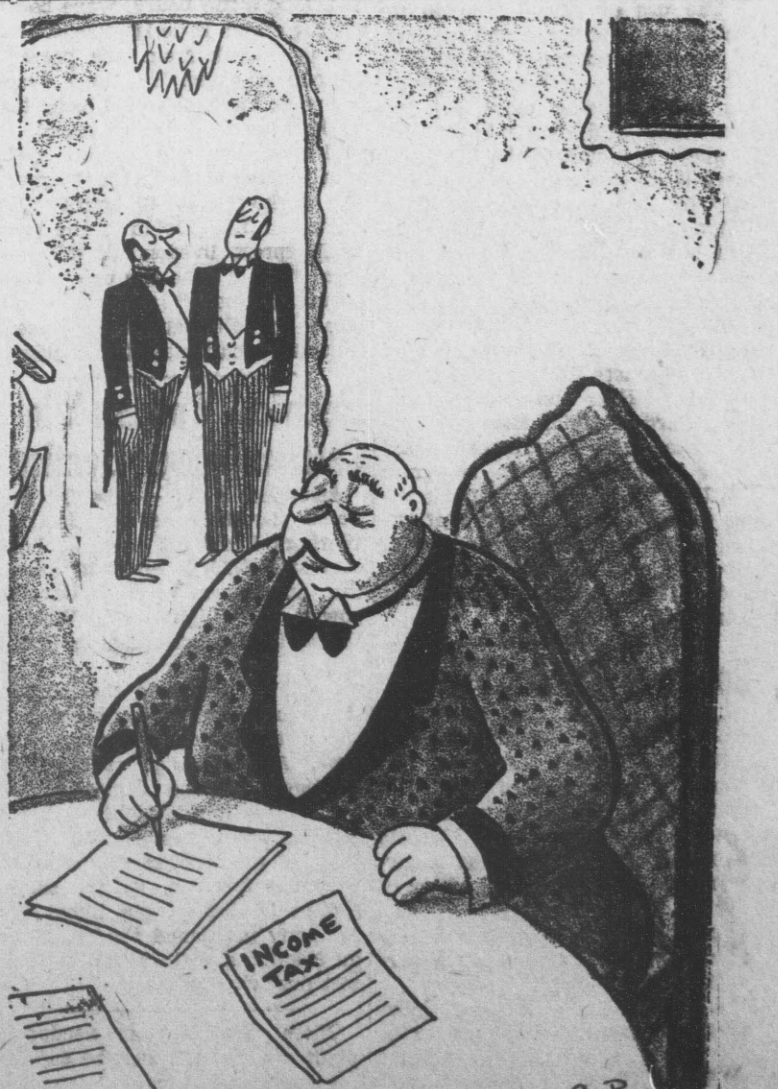
"Ultimately, the ordinary taxpayer makes up that lost revenue," In Fact pointed out, "because the government has to get the money elsewhere and individuals have no one to create profitable 'loopholes' for them."

In the next few months, the newsweekly revealed, almost \$760,000 worth of funds "properly belonging to the government" will be spent by the electric power industry to fight a public power program. On March 25, in Chicago, representatives of 25 private power firms met to plan a propaganda program to defeat proposed bills creating public power authorities similar to the TVA.

As evidence of the manner in which business is intensifying its advertising campaign, In Fact cited an article in Editor & Publisher, newspaper trade journal, which said that 10 newspaper ads praising the Taft-Hartley law originally placed by the National Small Businessmen's Association have now "snowballed into more than 100" in 16 days.

## Employment Decline Reported in N. Y. State

Albany, N. Y.—Manufacturing employment in New York State decreased by approximately 1500 workers in February, according to an announcement by Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi. Layoffs in virtually all the durable goods industries, particularly metals and machinery, more than offset sizeable employment gains in apparel and leather goods. Production workers' payrolls dropped 2.3 percent.



HEAD OF FAMILY—"He's claiming exemptions for his dog's new puppies."



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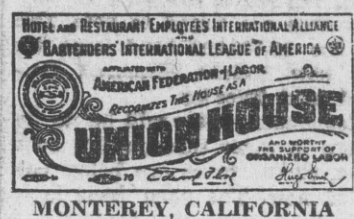
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Salinas, Calif.

## Local 483 Reports



## Supreme Court Does It Again

On Monday, March 7, the Supreme Court trumped its own ace of January 3 in again declaring that the states may outlaw union security even though federal law does not. They applied this decision not only to the Taft-Hartley Act but to the original Wagner Act. The moral to this decision is that Labor's League for Political Education must fight year in and year out for liberal state legislatures, and that federal lawmakers must see to it that the Taft-Hartley Repeal Bill specifically declares that federal law cannot be undermined by vicious state anti-union-shop laws.

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## ATTENTION ALL SALINAS MEMBERS:

**IMPORTANT:** This is to remind you again of the change in meeting date and place and the penalties for non-attendance. Prior to April your union met regularly the first Thursday of the month at Carpenters Hall, 422 No. Main St., Salinas; by action of the membership the meeting date and place has been changed to the Moose Hall, 121-A Monterey St., Salinas, the second Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m. The next meeting, therefore, will be on Tues. April 12, at the Moose Hall. We ask that you bring your paid up book or you may pay your dues prior to the meeting at Moose Hall. Business agents will be present to collect dues. Attendance records will be kept of all meetings in order that the union may carry out the mandate of the membership with regards to attendance. It will be necessary that all members in the Salinas area attend at least one meeting out of every quarter, which means during the months of April, May and June, the second quarter of the year, that you attend at least one meeting. Failure to attend will be subject to a \$2.50 fine; such fines to be paid before any dues.

## MONTEREY:

All members in the Monterey area are required of the same provisions; it will be necessary that you attend at least one meeting per quarter; such meetings to be held the second Thursday of the month at the Bartenders Hall, 315 Alvarado St., Monterey.

## ATTENTION, ALL MEMBERS!

The following action was also taken that when official notice is given for a division meeting regarding wages, hours and conditions or for any other purpose, it will be necessary that you attend this meeting. Failure to attend will be subject to a \$5.00 fine. All valid excuses must be given in writing and shall be referred to the executive board for action thereon. Anyone employed on the night shift will be deemed excused but must notify the Executive Board in writing; sickness shall require a written excuse authorized by an M.D.

## SHOP CARD

We again wish to emphasize the importance of patronizing our shop card; replica of that card appears at the heading of our column in the Monterey County Labor News every week. It is important that you patronize places of business who employ members of this union. Service stations, garages and taxi cabs are some of the important services which come under the jurisdiction of your union.

All milk is organized in Monterey county except Eureka Dairy; all beverage is organized; all pick-up and delivery; all retail in Salinas and one in Monterey; furniture, except Salinas and Deluna; all bread is 100% organized. The following cab companies are organized and employ members of your union: Black and White, 5565; Yellow and Checker, 7337; and Packard, 8001 in the Salinas area. In the Monterey area we have Rusty's Cab service and Monterey Taxi Service; all other cabs are non-union and do not employ members of the Teamsters Union. The following service stations in the Salinas area are organized and we ask that you patronize them: Lamar Bros., located at Monterey and E. Market Sts. Sears in Valley Center. Deahes' at Monterey and Gabilan Firestone Tire at Monterey and San Luis Sts. Les Thompson's Service at Front and Alisal.

We also have two tire shops, Harry Rhoades and Don Hultz. Remember that your constitution and by-laws contain a provision which requires all members to patronize union services only.

## IMPORTANT! ALL MEMBERS IN THE SALINAS AREA:

That the next regular meeting which will be held at the Moose Hall on April 12th, we expect to have a speaker from our Statistical and Legal Department from San Francisco to address the membership on matters of importance.

## NEW HOSPITAL

Your union again wishes to remind you of the important election which will be held in Salinas district regarding the new hospital; no doubt you have read the daily papers, it is important that you vote yes on April 12th in order that construction can begin immediately on a fine up-to-date large community hospital which is so sorely needed. May I remind you again that additional monies will not be required to build this hospital, this

two and one-half million dollar structure will be built out of monies already appropriated and taxes that have already been voted on but will require several years to accumulate before the initial two million dollars can be appropriated to begin construction. This election will merely provide that bonds be floated so that the monies will be appropriated immediately and then paid back over a period of fifteen years. Again, may we remind you of the importance of voting yes on April 12, so that we may use the hospital while paying for it rather than wait another fifteen years until the monies have been appropriated.

## RED CROSS

Remember the Red Cross; it is important that you make what contributions you can make through your union, very little funds have been collected to date.

## RECREATION

Watch this column for the Kids' show sponsored by your union which may take place on or about May 7 at the High School Auditorium and thereafter once or twice a month.

Patronize union services; pay your dues in order to receive benefits from this union. A good member is one that takes an active part in his union. Attend your meetings.

## VETS NEWS

Veterans planning to go to summer school under the GI Bill should begin now to make necessary arrangements for Veterans Administration certificates of eligibility. A veteran already in school under the GI Bill who intends to continue his education this summer in a different school should apply as soon as possible for a supplemental certificate of eligibility.

They must have supplemental certificates before they can be admitted to new schools or courses. Application forms for the certificates may be obtained from the registrar's office at their school or from any VA office.

After a veteran has filled out the application, he should send it to the VA regional office having jurisdiction over the school he now is attending.

Veterans planning to attend summer school in the same institution in which they now are enrolled do not need a supplemental certificate to re-enroll.

**QUESTION:** I interrupted my training under the GI Bill and now would like to resume training at once. May I go back to my classes anytime?

**ANSWER:** Before you resume your interrupted training, you should get a supplemental certificate of eligibility from VA.

**QUESTION:** Are patients in Veterans Administration hospitals permitted unlimited participation in competitive sports?

**ANSWER:** Patients may participate only with the permission of the doctor in each case. An average of 43,000 veterans per month have been participating in various sports at hospitals and homes.

**QUESTION:** I wish to take on-the-job training. Where should I apply?

**ANSWER:** Apply at your nearest VA office. Take along a certified or photostatic copy of your discharge papers. If you are married or have one or more dependents and want subsistence allowances, take along your marriage certificate and other documents that will establish your dependency claim.

**QUESTION:** I have completed my on-the-job training course and have some entitlement left. I would like to take another course. May I enroll at another school?

**ANSWER:** You may use any remaining entitlement either for on-the-job training or for educational training with VA's prior approval.

## Union Teachers Sponsor Town Meeting Program

Louisville—It took the Louisville Federation of Teachers (AFL) to bring the Town Meeting of the Air program to this city. The LFT succeeded in scheduling an April 5 appearance for the popular radio feature after two other organizations had attempted and failed. Union committees are hard at work on the program, which will be presented in the Memorial Auditorium.

In sharpening knives and other cutting tools slowness is desirable. Rapid grinding or honing may generate enough heat to damage the metal.

As those of you who attended the March meetings of Local 483 know, the membership voted against opening our contracts for re-negotiation this year, and instructed your Secretary to renew the present contract for another year.

Despite repeated rumors that the employer groups who deal with us were going to open the contracts and demand a general reduction in wages, no such action has materialized. The deadline for opening of the contracts was passed on Saturday, April 2, 1949, with no moves to open presented by any individual employer or employers' association. Thus the contract which we have implemented for the past year will automatically be extended until May 31, 1950.

The contract committee, composed of 18 members in addition to the officers and Executive Board, met together and studied the contracts with great interest. Many proposed changes were discussed, but several factors other than our situation in the Monterey area had also to be considered.

The Monterey peninsula is just one section of a greater area known as the Monterey Bay area—the central coastal California area from the northern Santa Cruz County line to the southern line of Monterey County. In this area, there are four local unions of our International—the Santa Cruz and Watsonville locals, the two locals in Salinas, and our own local in Monterey. At the present time, the contract enjoyed by our local in this area has the highest wage scale of any of the four locals in the Monterey Bay area. We are equal to or slightly over the scale for the Watsonville-Santa Cruz area, and we are substantially over the scale provided for in the contracts of Salinas Local 467. Both of these local unions decided to renew their existing contracts for another year, rather than negotiate new agreements which would provide for a higher wage scale. You can readily see what sort of position this placed our local in. We know that to a large extent the over-all conditions in the communities which comprise the Monterey Bay area are similar. Employers in Monterey, for example, are in direct competition with the operators in the resort city of Santa Cruz, and to a lesser extent, they must compete with owners in the Salinas area. A request on the part of Local 483 for increases in wages would certainly meet with unusually determined resistance from our local employers. There are other, more localized factors which were considered as well. Business volume during the past six months has dropped considerably below the higher levels which existed for the past five or six years. The third bad year in the fishing and canning industry has materially hurt all industry in our area. And the very poor winter tourist season has had a particularly unhealthy effect upon our industry.

The above paragraphs sound much like an apology from your union officers for not re-opening our contracts. Such is not the case. It is felt that the membership should at all times be kept informed and advised of the reasons and conditions which motivate action of your local union. The rank and file members of our contract committee recommended to the membership, at the March meetings, that our present contract be continued for another year. This recommendation was concurred in by the membership assembled in regular meetings. And your union officers, in the proper performance of their duties, are bound by the decisions of the majority of the membership.

As a matter of plain fact, it is the considered opinion of your secretary that our wage scale is in need of general increases, and our conditions can certainly stand improvement. The cost of living for the average worker in the Monterey Peninsula area is higher than the average cost for central California. This is brought about chiefly by high real estate values and high rental charges. Workers in our industry, who are among the lowest paid in any industry, must compete with highly-skilled craftsmen in the building trades industries, with Army and Navy officers assigned locally for duty or schooling, and with seasonal tourists, for the rental units which the community offers. Since the supply does not meet the demand, it is a natural consequence that the rental units will be dearly bought. This serious situation cannot be adjusted in a short time. It may be several years before an average worker will be able to

find suitable housing at a reasonable price. Meantime, workers in our industry are among those who are hardest hit. The lack of stabilized industry in our community is an ever-growing problem which menaces the security of several thousands of workers and their families. The Monterey office of the Department of Employment reported that during February of this year more than 3,800 workers were drawing unemployment benefits. In a community of this size, that number of unemployed workers presents both a challenge and a most serious situation. It is one which all of us will be compelled to assist in solving. Just what sort of measures can be utilized in bettering this community problem has not yet been made clear. Instead, the problem seems to be one which many people discuss, but which few conscientiously attempt to improve. The people in our industry, employer and worker alike, can be an effective agent if they will continuously agitate our civic leaders to assume the initiative and get to work on this, and other, serious local problems. Improvements in our local employment problems will reflect to the advantage of small business and workers alike. We cannot lose by such action, but we surely stand to benefit.

The Monterey County Health Department is commencing the second series of lectures and visual education for workers in the food handling industry. The first of the new courses will be held Tuesday, April 5, at the Monterey County Building, 559 Pacific St. The afternoon session starts at 2:30 p.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. The evening course runs from 7:30 until 9:00 p.m. There is much of real value in these courses for all of the workers in the food and beverage handling industry. Many of our members completed the four-course session when it was first presented early this year, and all have spoken highly of the benefits of the movies and lectures. It is hoped that each and every member of Local 483 who has not previously taken advantage of this educational offering will do so now. If your working hours conflict with the time set for the food handlers' course, notify your union office, and your employer will be requested to make provision for your attendance. Don't forget: the course starts Tuesday, April 5, and will run on each of the three succeeding Tuesdays, same time.

GEORGE L. RICE,  
Secretary.



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## Carpenter ROUNDUP

Carpenters Union 925  
Salinas, California

**TO CARPENTERS:**  
All registered voters in the Salinas area are urged to vote YES on the \$2,000,000 bond issue for the new Salinas Memorial Hospital next Tuesday.

Remember—there will be no increase in taxes through this bond issue, as the taxes are being collected now. The bond issue is to raise the money now to start the hospital at once, and the bonds will be paid off as the taxes are collected.

Any thinking person will vote in favor of the bonds. The need for a new hospital is obvious and a delay until the taxes are all collected, about 15 years, is needless. So—vote YES next Tuesday.

**TO CARPENTERS:**  
New quarterly cards for the period of April, May and June are now at the union office. Any member not having his second quarter membership card should get it at once.

All members must have the new quarterly cards by April 15 in order to work on construction jobs.

No more men will be called to the Stone & Webster job for the P. G. & E. Co. at Moss Landing for at least two more months. Work is progressing rapidly and more than 100 carpenters are on the job now.

Stolte, Inc., contractors, has started work on the new stores in the Valley Center business district on South Main Street. A three-unit store building is being erected.

An office building is to be erected on East Alisal Street near Soledad Street by Garth V. Lacey, Salinas attorney. The new building will be adjacent to that being erected by Contractor F. Hampshire for the Salinas Savings & Loan Assn., and will add materially to the development of this vicinity.

Progress is reported by Business Agent George R. Harter on various projects in the Valley Center business tract. The Kress Store is going up rapidly and steel has arrived for the building which will house Leeds Shoe store and other stores.

A building which has been a warehouse for Sears and located between Lucky Stores and Woolworth's is to be prepared for occupancy shortly by the Salinas Commercial Co., which will feature plumbing and other supplies.

Remember to vote next Tuesday!

## Unity Plea Made By IAM Leader

New York (LPA)—If labor is to fulfill its obligation to the American people, it must remain in politics and give united support to liberal candidates and programs in all future elections, Al Hayes, vice-president of the International Association of Machinists, said last week.

He spoke here at a conference of the Trade Union Council of the Liberal Party of New York, where he and Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas (D., Calif.) shared the platform as principal speakers. "It took the Taft-Hartley law to shake us from our lethargy in politics," asserted Hayes. "Unless we remain active and alert in the days ahead, our November 2 victory will be an empty one, or at least a temporary one."

Hayes called upon unions to strengthen the flimsy political organizations which each formed before the last major election. He warned his audience that reaction in America is as strong and united as ever before in history.

"Today we find the special interests and the reactionary statesmen aligned closer than ever, trying to force their will against the will and welfare of the great majority of our people, notwithstanding the results of the November election."

Labor has its duty and responsibility the task of making the plain people of this country the masters of their own destiny, he concluded.

## Drive Begun for Action On Labor Extension Bill

Washington—The National Committee for the Extension of Labor Education has started a drive here for passage of the labor extension service bill. The measure has the backing of the American Federation of Labor.

The bipartisan measure was reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare on February 25. It would furnish to wage earners information comparable to the extension work undertaken for farmers by the extension service of the Department of Agriculture.

Every square mile of the United States receives the heat equivalent of over 170,000 tons of coal from the sun during a growing season.

## Attention! Union Directory

Union Directory will be run in the issue of the second week of each month unless lack of space prohibits. All changes, corrections and additions must be received at the newspaper office by the 1st of the month. Clip this directory for reference during the current month.

## MONTEREY

**BAKERS 24**—Meets 3rd Saturday at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., at 8 p.m. Main Office: Cecil Bradford, 122 N. 2nd St., Salinas, phone Ballard 8341.

**BARBERS 827**—Meets 3rd Tuesday at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., at 8 p.m. Pres. H. Lee Elder, 265 Main St., phone 3417; Sec. N. H. Freeman, 8 W. Alisal St., phone 5203, night, 9782.

**BARTENDERS 545**—Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 1 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., at 8 p.m. Pres. Virgil K. Knight, office 117 Pajaro St., phone 4633.

**BUTCHERS 506** (Salinas Branch)—Meets 1st Monday at Carpenters Hall at 8 p.m. Pres. Clark Bannett, 1209 1st Ave., phone 2178; Sec. Agt. E. L. Courtright, 1221 1st Ave., Salinas, phone Salinas 9238.

**CARPENTERS 925**—Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 1 p.m. at Carpenters Hall, 1221 1st Ave., Salinas, phone Salinas 9238.

**CARPENTERS 1279** (King City)—Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays at King City Carpenters Hall, Pres. Floyd Hill, phone 844V, Sec. A. W. Reiger, office phone 197.

**CARPENTERS AUXILIARY 373**—Meets 2nd Tuesdays at Carpenters Hall at 8 p.m. Mrs. Edna Darnell, 1220 Circle St., phone 2178; Sec. Mrs. Alma Ball, 140 Linden St., phone 4633; Bus. Agt. Earl H. Perry, 727 Burke St., phone 2252.

**CENTRAL LABOR UNION** (Monterey County)—Salinas—Meets every Friday at 8 p.m. at 117 Pajaro St. Pres. Robert Smith, 48 Harvest, phone 4129; Sec. Treas. Wm. G. Kenyon, 274 E. Alisal, phone 787.

**CULINARY ALLIANCE 467**—Meets 2nd Monday at 2:30 p.m. and 4th Monday at 8:30 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple. Pres. Alan Meeks; Sec. Bertha Boles. Office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 5203.

**DRY CLEANERS 258-B**—Meets 2nd Thursday at 11 Pajaro St., Salinas, at 8 p.m. Pres. Louise Vastall, 664 Terrace St.; Sec. Treas. Edna Sloan, 517 E. Roosevelt; Receiver, Lawrence Palacios, 2940 16th St., Salinas, phone MA. 1-3336.

**ELECTRICIAN WORKERS 245**—Meets 1st Wednesdays, 117 Pajaro St. Pres. Karl Ocola, Rec. Sec. Gerald Ingaw, 1024 58th St., phone 5203; Sec. Treas. B. A. Carl Lara, 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, phone 8783.

**ENGINEERS** (Stationary) 39—Meets 3rd Wednesdays, alternating between Salinas and Watsonville Labor Temples, 8 p.m. Pres. Frank Brantley; Sec. Leo J. Dorby; Mgr. C. Fitch; Bus. Agt. Theo. Thompson, Moss Landing, phone 6572.

**FRESH FRUIT VEGETABLE WORKERS UNION 917**—Meets in Women's Club. Pres. Holman Dery, 531st Ave. Receiver, Lawrence Palacios, 2940 16th St., Salinas, phone MA. 1-3336. Office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 5203.

**JOINT EXECUTIVE BOARD, Bartenders 545 and Culinary Alliance 467**—Meets 2nd Wednesdays 2 p.m. at Labor Temple, Bertha A. Boles, phone 6209; Sec. A. J. Clark, 117 Pajaro St., phone 4633.

**LABORERS 272**—Meets 2nd Monday at 8 p.m. at 117 Pajaro St. Pres. R. Fancher, 145 Hitchcock Rd., phone 5810, office 5980. Sec. J. F. Matos, 102 Torso, phone 6777. Bus. Agt. B. M. B. Miller, Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., phone 6777.

**LATHERS 122**—Meets in Salinas Labor Temple 2nd and 4th Fridays, 8 p.m. Pres. Roy R. Benge, Hilby St., Monterey, phone Monterey 4820. Sec. Treas. Dean S. Seelbach, 528 Park St., Monterey, phone 5223.

**LAUNDRY WORKERS 258**—Meets 3rd Thursday at Salinas Labor Temple, at 7:30 p.m. Pres. Hazel Steves, 1314 2nd Ave., Sec. Treas. Grace Montrose, 531st Ave. Receiver, Lawrence Palacios, 2940 16th St., Salinas, phone MA. 1-3336. Office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 5203.

**MACHINISTS AND MECHANICS 1824**—Meets 1st Tuesday, 2nd Thursday, Salinas Labor Temple, 8 p.m. Pres. I. B. Woodard, 340 Bardin Rd., Bus. Rep. Carl Lara, 274 McGinley Way, phone 8544.

**NEWSPAPER WRITERS AND REPORTERS 2275**—Meets on call at Labor Temple, 2111 Webster St., Oakland, Pres. Chas. L. Waite, 3823 Occidental St., Oakland, phone 2-3102. Sec. Treas. Jean Johnson, 5463 Claremont Ave., Oakland, phone 9740.

**PAINTERS 1104**—Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 117 Pajaro St., 7:30 p.m. Pres. Clayton Louis, 414 Riker St., phone 9780. Sec. Treas. Harry Wingard, 856 Cotton, Monterey; Sec. R. Meders, 151 Toro Ave., Salinas.

**PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS 503**—Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Salinas Labor Temple. Pres. Wm. R. Fin, Sec. R. E. Baggett, phone 20252; Bus. Agt. Albert Eversly, 86 Spring, 4577; Rec. Sec. Bobi Larsen, 816 East St., phone 5223. Bd. meets each Wednesday night at Labor Temple.

**POSTAL CARRIERS 1046**—Meets every 3rd Wednesday, Civic Club, 8 p.m. Pres. Elmer W. Gipe, 1236 Circle Dr., phone 6102; Sec. H. C. Schielke, 956 El Camino Real No. 10, phone 7002.

**PRESSMEN 328** (Monterey Bay Area Printing Pressmen & Assn. Union)—Meets 3rd Monday of month at Salinas at 8 p.m. Pres. Harry Wingard, 856 Cotton, Monterey; Sec. R. Meders, 151 Toro Ave., Salinas.

**RETAIL CLERKS 839**—Meets 2nd Wednesday, Women's Club, 8 p.m. Pres. Lawrence Vestal, 12 Glenview Ct., phone 6624. Sec. Treas. I. B. Gault, Monterey, 212-19th St., Pacific Grove, phone 3130. Office, Rm. 3, Ginkburg Bldg., 6 W. Gableton St., phone 4263.

**ROOFERS 50**—Meets 3rd Saturday, 9 a.m., Watsonville Labor Temple. Pres. James M. Ray, 302 2nd St., Salinas, Sec. and Bus. Agt. W. W. Powell, Box 636, Seaside, phone 2-1256.

**SHEET METAL WORKERS 304**—Meets 1st Friday alternately at Monterey at 411 1/2 Alvarado St., and at Salinas at 117 Pajaro St. (This local has jurisdiction over Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties.) Pres. John Alsop, P.O. Box 317, Pacific Grove, phone 7825; Rec. Sec. Haskell Warren, 1276 1/2, Bus. Agt. for Salinas area, I. B. McGinley, 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, phone 6777.

**TEACHERS** (Monterey County) 457—Meets in Monterey 2nd Wednesday, 5 p.m. Fin. Sec. Wayne Edwards, 823 Johnson Ave., Monterey, phone 7622.

**THEATRICAL & STAGE EMPLOYEES AND MOTION PICTURE OPERATORS 611**—Meets 1st Tuesday every month at 9:30 a.m. at Watsonville Labor Temple. Pres. Geo. Smith, 1122 Garner St., Salinas; Bus. Agt. James Wilson, 228 Peyton St., Santa Cruz, phone 1216; Sec. Dave Green, P.O. Box 584, Watsonville, phone Watsonville 757.

**GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSE MEN AND HELPERS 890**—Meets 2nd Thursday at Bartenders Hall, 315 Alvarado St., Monterey. Pres. Albert A. Horner, 24 Paloma, phone Salinas 5853; Sec. Peter A. Andrade, 274 E. Alisal St.; Bus. Agt. Glenn Wilkerson, Office, 315 Alvarado, Monterey, phone 20124.

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**GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSE MEN AND HELPERS 890**—Meets 1st Thursday night of month at Carpenters Hall, 422 N. Main St., Salinas, at 8 p.m. Pres. Albert A. Horner, 24 Paloma, phone 5853; Sec. Peter A. Andrade; Bus. Agt. Wm. G. Kenyon, 305 Lang, phone 2-0497; Office, 274 E. Alisal St., Salinas, phone 4833.

**TIPOGRAPHICAL 543**—Meets last Sunday of month alternating between Salinas and Watsonville, Pres. D. R. Harrison, Sec. Treas. A. C. Davis, 109 Prospect St., Watsonville, phone 6591.

**GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSE MEN AND HELPERS 890**—Meets 1st Thursday night of month at Carpenters Hall, 422 N. Main St., Salinas, at 8 p.m. Pres. Albert A. Horner, 24 Paloma, phone 5853; Sec. Peter A. Andrade; Bus. Agt. Wm. G. Kenyon, 305 Lang, phone 2-0497; Office, 274 E. Alisal St., Salinas, phone 4833.

## Monopoly, Our Worst Enemy

New York.—Concentration of economic power in the United States is "the most dangerous enemy we have to fear," Tom C. Clark, Attorney General of the United States, declared in a speech to the New York Bar Association here.

"This is an international danger more ominous than another nation's strength," said Clark.

"Statistics show that small businesses, one after another, have been gobbled up by the big corporations faster than ever during the past few years. That is exactly what happened in Germany, in Italy and in Japan. When economic power becomes too centralized, there are few roads ahead except those which lead to loss of liberties."

Unless the trend toward concentration of economic power in the United States is reversed, Clark said, "our way of life is in grave and increasing danger."

"Our great American society rests upon the idea of limited power," Clark declared. "Liberty is endangered when either economic or political power is concentrated in the hands of the few."

**U. S. POWERLESS**

In urging the lawyers to aid in anti-trust law enforcement, Clark said "the Department of Justice cannot do the job alone." By preventing monopolies from being formed, business and lawyers can help cope with the problem, he said.

"Of course, I realize that the economic purpose of business is profit," Clark continued. "However, the desire to accomplish this economic purpose at times becomes so intense that some consider public policy good or bad, vigorous or ineffectual, practical or visionary."

## GREEN HAILS NAMING OF GRAHAM TO SENATE

Washington.—The appointment of Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, to the U. S. Senate was hailed by AFL President William Green.

In a statement issued here Mr. Green said: "We regard Dr. Graham's appointment as an important addition to the liberal and progressive forces representing southern states in the Senate."

Dr. Graham was named to replace Senator J. Melville Broughton who died recently. The former member of the National War Labor Board will serve until the 1950 general election.

by its effects on profits.

"Does industry realize the implications of this monopoly problem? That self-interest which seeks profits must be tempered by self-interest which impels the preservation of our economic freedom? That is the long range problem for business."

Clark said as long ago as 1945, one-tenth of one per cent of corporations reporting to the Bureau of International Revenue owned 52 per cent of the assets of all corporations reporting and that eight per cent owned 91 per cent.

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# Smash-Labor Drive Opens In Capital

## Invasion of Big Money From East

(State Fed. Release)  
San Francisco.—A concerted offensive against the labor movement was launched in both houses of the State Legislature the final week in March.

Senator Hatfield (Madera, Merced), relying heavily on the Legislative Counsel Bureau and its extensive staff of 20 attorneys, instigated a determined effort last Friday to smash and obliterate the constitutional right of labor to bargain collectively through cooperative action.

The vehicle for Hatfield's blows directed against every union member in California is SB 1066, the "hot cargo" bill and the "daring" of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association, the Associated Farmers, the Waterfront Employers Association, and innumerable other fiercely anti-labor groups.

No quarter is being given as organized employers' groups, powerfully reinforced by eastern lobbyists from huge financial and insurance trusts, converge on Sacramento, intent on depriving trade unions of all their hard-won gains of recent years. Management representatives appear determined to deal severe setbacks to the progressive laws as a result of their defeat on the national scene.

Amendments to the "hot cargo" bill by Senator Hatfield were withdrawn in toto when Senator O'Gara (San Francisco) and Senator Judah (Santa Cruz), chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, charged Hatfield with attempting to force a vote without due consideration of the proposed changes. The withdrawal of the amendments by Senator Hatfield was to avoid further hearings in the committee and a possible adverse vote by that group.

On March 24, the committee passed SB 1066 to the floor of the upper house by a vote of 5 to 2. Senators O'Gara and Johnson (Nevada, Placer and Sierra) voting "No." In voting "Aye," Senator Judah indicated that he was very hesitant to pass the bill out of the committee due to its having been vigorously denounced as unconstitutional by three state attorneys general, Earl Warren, Robert Kenny and Frederick Howser. The "hot cargo" legislation was set as a special order of business for the Senate at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 31.

The Federation-sponsored workmen's compensation bill, AB 125 (Maloney), guaranteeing minimum weekly compensation payments of \$15 to approved claimants, and maximum awards of \$40, was passed by the Assembly on March 28 on a roll call vote of 44 to 26. Those opposing passage of this badly needed legislation included: Connelly (San Francisco, 21), Grunsky (Watsonville), Kirgwood (Saratoga), Silliman (Salinas) and Tomlinson (Santa Barbara). Regretfully to the Federation legislative representatives, Assemblymen Comand (Hollywood) and Geddes (Pomona), who had seen fit to support this measure in committee, switched their beliefs once the bill reached the floor. Passage of this measure in the Senate is considered doubtful.

The upper house, on Monday, March 28, passed SB 313, authored by Senator Desmond (Sacramento) which permits a sliding scale from six per cent to nine per cent for employers' contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund in

## Charity Ads Dodge Taxes

Who pays for those expensive full-page newspaper advertisements in which the big corporations propagandize their economic and political views? Like wise, such radio programs as the one in which the U.S. Steel Corporation put on a "big show" and made a pitch for the Red Cross—this winning for the corporation a reputation for "charity." A glaring example was the recent Standard Steel Springs Co. "ads" urging bigger and better profits and smaller taxes.

How many of you know that Uncle Sam pays a large chunk of the cost of these propaganda "ads" and "good will" radio programs? A "loophole" in the tax law permits corporations to call any kind of advertisement—printed or radio—a "business expense." As such, the cost can be deducted from the profits taxed by Uncle Sam.

The corporation income tax is 38 per cent. Hence, when a company expends \$10,000 on an "ad," Uncle Sam foots \$3,800 of the cost, because he loses that much in taxes. Until the excise profits tax was eliminated a couple years ago, a \$10,000 "ad" cost a corporation only \$1,500 and cost Uncle Sam \$8,500 in taxes. That's why we saw more propaganda "ads" during and shortly after the war.

And when we say Uncle Sam pays, that means You and Me, Brother. Such "ads" mean corporations pay less taxes, and Mr. John Q. Citizen (You and Me) must pay more. Uncle Sam has to get the money somewhere.

British production expansion calls for an increase of coal output by nearly one quarter, raising electricity generating capacity by one-half and increasing the output of steel by nearly one-sixth. All this in the next four years.

The parent union was "disintegrating" and that their interests would be served most effectively by joining the AFL unit. A similar explanation was made by Patrick Rail, business manager of the bakelocal, said the members felt that

The two locals have affiliated with the Bakery and Confectionary Workers International Union, AFL, Leon Reich, counsel for the Loft Local, said the members felt that

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## Two CIO Locals Bolt to AFL Bakers

New York City.—The much battered Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, CIO, lost two more locals to the American Federation of Labor.

One of the bolting locals represented 2000 workers in the factories of the Loft Candy Co. Henry Heide, Inc., and several smaller candy makers. The other was made up of 1200 bakers employed by the Gordon (Silvercup) Baking Co., Dugan Brothers and other bakers.

The two locals have affiliated with the Bakery and Confectionary Workers International Union, AFL, Leon Reich, counsel for the Loft Local, said the members felt that

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## Drive Begun for Action On Labor Extension Bill

Washington—The National Committee for the Extension of Labor Education has started a drive here for passage of the labor extension service bill. The measure has the backing of the American Federation of Labor.

The bipartisan measure was reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare on February 25. It would furnish to wage earners information comparable to the extension work undertaken for farmers by the extension service of the Department of Agriculture.

Every square mile of the United States receives the heat equivalent of over 170,000 tons of coal from the sun during a growing season.